

IN THE SPECIFICATION: (Marked-up version of the specification)

On page 5, lines 13-21, replace with the following:

The preferred embodiment of the present invention is depicted in Figure 3 and is configured to seamlessly switch between request and grant mode and contention mode. A scheduling algorithm incorporated by a scheduling block(30) containing a priority queue(32), a ~~bypass queue(34)~~ bypass queue(36), a ~~weighted fair queue(36)~~ weighted fair queue(34) and a contention queue(38) is used to implement this algorithm. The bypass queue(36) allows real time traffic such as Constant Bit Rate(CBR) to bypass the weighted fair queue(34) and not be included in the algorithm with the contention mode and the request and grant mode. Therefore, when the bypass queue(36) is not empty, the priority queue (32) will allow the contents of the bypass queue(36) to be delivered before delivering the contents of the weighted fair queue(34).

On page 5, lines 22-29, replace with the following:

Referring again to Figure 3, the ~~weighted fair queue(36)~~ weighted fair queue(34) actually implements the scheduling algorithm to serve non-real-time traffic classes so different streams such as EUN requests(40) and the output from the contention queue(38) can be prioritized based on their Quality of Service (QoS). The QoS is the priority given to any given EUN based upon the monetary value paid by that EUN to use the wireless network. For instance, an EUN that pays more in QoS will have a higher priority and therefore be higher in line than an EUN that pays less. The contention queue (38), however, has a priority lower than that of any EUN input(40) requesting bandwidth from the weighted fair queue(34).

On page 6, lines 5-13, replace with the following:

Referring again to Figure 3 in the preferred embodiment of the present invention, as the network becomes lightly loaded, the number of EUNs requesting bandwidth(40) from the weighted fair queue(34) decreases. However, the contention queue(38) retains the one input to the weighted fair queue(34). Therefore, as the number of EUNs requesting bandwidth(40) in the request and grant mode decreases, the ~~ratio~~ ratio of request and grant/contention decreases. For instance, if the number of EUNs requesting bandwidth(40) decreases to three, then the mode ~~ratio~~ ratio will be 3/1 or 75% request and grant and 25% contention. In other words, the percentage of contention in the system will seamlessly increase as the number of EUN requests(40) in the system decrease.